

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/055,379

Examiner

Kevin Bates

Applicant(s)

WATANABE, MIKIO

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3-22-07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Response to Amendment

This Office Action is in response to a communication made on March 22, 2007.

Claims 1, 13, 15, and 16 have been amended.

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-16 are allowable.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Catherine Voisinet, Reg. No. 52,327 on May 24, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image transmitting method for transmitting an image from a client computer to a service server, the method comprising:
 - enabling selection of the image to be transmitted;
 - enabling selection of one of the plurality of menu buttons, wherein each of the plurality of menu buttons correspond to one of a plurality of service including an image storage service, an image print service, and a mobile phone service;

enabling selection of a menu update button, which updates information associated with the plurality of menu buttons

obtaining a service content definition file in which image information, limited by a destination service server, is included;

determining whether the selected image has image information suitable for the limited image information;

performing image processing such that image information of the selected image is suitable for the limited image information when the image information of the selected image is unsuitable for the limited image information; and

transmitting the selected image to the service server without any processing by the client computer when the selected image has image information suitable for the limited image information, and transmitting to the service server the selected image being subjected to image processing when the image information is unsuitable for the limited image information, wherein the selected image is transmitted to the image server to perform the service of the selected one of the plurality of menu buttons.

2. (Original) The method of transmitting an image according to claim 1, wherein the image information includes at least one of an image size, a file size, compressibility, an image format, and an image aspect ratio.

3. (Previously Presented) The image transmitting method according to claim 1, wherein:

the client computer starts predetermined image display programs to offer a list of images on a display; and the client computer displays the plurality of menu buttons based on menu button information corresponding to various service servers;

the image to be transmitted is selected from the list of images by using a pointing device; and

a desired menu button is selected from the plurality of menu buttons so that access is made to a service server corresponding to the selected menu button.

4. (Original) The method of transmitting an image according to claim 3, wherein the image information includes at least one of an image size, a file size, compressibility, an image format, and an image aspect ratio.

5. (Original) The image transmitting method according to claim 3, wherein the image information limited by the destination service server is included in menu button information corresponding to the service server.

6. (Original) The method of transmitting an image according to claim 5, wherein the image information includes at least one of an image size, a file size, compressibility, an image format, and an image aspect ratio.

7. (Original) The image transmitting method according to claim 1, wherein the client computer inquires image information limited by the destination service server prior

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to transmission of the selected image, and the client computer obtains the limited image information from the service server

8. (Original) The method of transmitting an image according to claim 7, wherein the image information includes at least one of an image size, a file size, compressibility, an image format, and an image aspect ratio.

9. (Previously Presented) The image transmitting method according to claim 7, wherein:

the client computer starts predetermined image display programs to offer a list of images on a display; and the client computer displays the plurality of menu buttons based on menu button information corresponding to various service servers;

the image to be transmitted is selected from the list of images by using a pointing device; and

a desired menu button is selected from the plurality of menu buttons so that access is made to a service server corresponding to the selected menu button.

10. (Original) The method of transmitting an image according to claim 9, wherein the image information includes at least one of an image size, a file size, compressibility, an image format, and an image aspect ratio.

11. (Original) The image transmitting method according to claim 9, wherein the image information limited by the destination service server is included in menu button information corresponding to the service server.

12. (Original) The method of transmitting an image according to claim 11, wherein the image information includes at least one of an image size, a file size, compressibility, an image format, and an image aspect ratio.

13. (Currently Amended) An image transmitting system for transmitting an image from a client computer to a service server, the system comprising:

the client computer comprising:

an image selecting device which enables selection of the image to be transmitted;

a button selecting device which enables selection of one of the plurality of menu buttons, wherein each of the plurality of menu buttons correspond to one of a plurality of services including an image storage service, an image print service, and a mobile phone service; enabling selection of a menu update button, which updates information associated with the plurality of menu buttons;

a service content definition file obtaining device which obtains a service content definition file in which image information, limited by a destination server, is included;

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a determining device which determines whether image information of an image selected by the image selecting device is suitable for image information obtained by the image information obtaining device;

an image processing device which processes the selected image such that image information of the selected image is suitable for the limited image information when image information of the selected image is unsuitable for the limited image information; and

a device which transmits a selected image to the service server without any processing by the client computer when image information of the selected image is suitable for the limited image information, and which transmits to the service server the selected image processed by the image processing device when the image information is unsuitable for the limited image information; and

the service server comprising:

an image information storing device which stores image information limited by the service server;

a device which transmits image information stored in the image information storing device to the client computer in response to request for obtaining image information from the client computer; and

a device which receives a selected image transmitted from the client computer and performs the image service, selected using the button selecting device, on the selected image.

14. (Original) The image transmitting system according to claim 13, wherein the image information includes at least one of an image size, a file size, compressibility, an image format, and an image aspect ratio.

15. (Currently Amended) An image transmitting method for transmitting an image from a client computer to a service server, the method comprising:

enabling selection of the image to be transmitted;

enabling selection of one of the plurality of menu buttons, wherein each of the plurality of menu buttons correspond to one of a plurality of service including an image storage service, an image print service, and a mobile phone service;

enabling selection of a menu update button, which updates information associated with the plurality of menu buttons

obtaining a service content definition file in which image information, limited by a destination service server, is included;

determining whether the selected image has image information suitable for the limited image information;

performing image processing such that image information of the selected image is suitable for the limited image information when the image information of the selected image is unsuitable for the limited image information; and

transmitting the selected image to the service server without any processing by the client computer when the selected image has image information suitable for the limited image information, and transmitting to the service server the selected image

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being subjected to image processing when the image information is unsuitable for the limited image information, wherein the selected image is transmitted to the image server to perform the service of the selected one of the plurality of menu buttons,

wherein menu button information, which is distributed from the menu server when the menu is updated, includes image information limited by a service server corresponding to each menu button.

16. (Currently Amended) An image transmitting system for transmitting an image from a client computer to a service server, the system comprising:

the client computer comprising:

an image selecting device which enables selection of the image to be transmitted;

a button selecting device which enables selection of one of the plurality of menu buttons, wherein each of the plurality of menu buttons correspond to one of a plurality of services including an image storage service, an image print service, and a mobile phone service; enabling selection of a menu update button, which updates information associated with the plurality of menu buttons;

a service content definition file obtaining device which obtains a service content definition file in which image information, limited by a destination server, is included;

a determining device which determines whether image information of an image selected by the image selecting device is suitable for image information obtained by the image information obtaining device;

an image processing device which processes the selected image such that image information of the selected image is suitable for the limited image information when image information of the selected image is unsuitable for the limited image information; and

a device which transmits a selected image to the service server without any processing by the client computer when image information of the selected image is suitable for the limited image information, and which transmits to the service server the selected image processed by the image processing device when the image information is unsuitable for the limited image information; and

the service server comprising:

an image information storing device which stores image information limited by the service server;

a device which transmits image information stored in the image information storing device to the client computer in response to request for obtaining image information from the client computer; and

a device which receives a selected image transmitted from the client computer and performs the image service, selected using the button selecting device, on the selected image,

wherein menu button information, which is distributed from the menu server when the menu is updated, includes image information limited by a service server corresponding to each menu button.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach, suggest neither singly nor in combination the features of an image transmitting method that that formats and transmitted a image based on a specific selected button, where the buttons are updatable and correspond to a specific service and those buttons correspond to at least the specific services of storage, printing, and mobile phone screen services.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Patent No. 7133862 issued to Hubert, because it teaches an import/export service for documents that includes a graphical user interface and automated formatting of the documents.

Conclusion

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Bates whose telephone number is (571) 272-3980. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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